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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's
Appointment with You on Thursday,
October 18

You have agreed to receive Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. He will be accompanied by Ambassador Dobrynin and his interpreter, Viktor Sukhodrev. I shall bring with him Ambassador Thompson, Mr. Hillenbrand and Mr. Akalovsky, who will serve as your interpreter. The call was at Gromyko's request but we do not know what subject or subjects he will wish to bring up.

Although Berlin will clearly be an important topic of discussion, it seems unlikely that Gromyko will have much new to say substantively on this subject. You will have noted that Khrushchev adhered to standard Soviet positions in his discussion of Berlin with Ambassador Kohler.

Other topics which Gromyko might raise include nuclear testing; the dissemination of nuclear weapons; and disarmament, with particular reference to his statement at the U.N. General Assembly on September 21 in which he moved from the previous Soviet position on destruction of all delivery vehicles in Stage One.

Enclosed

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Enclosed are position papers dealing with these subjects. In light of the discussion of Cuba between Khrushchev and Ambassador Kohler, Gromyko might also raise this subject with you.

You may wish to raise the problem of Laos by referring to the understanding you reached with Mr. Khrushchev at Vienna concerning the neutrality and independence of Laos. A suggested talking points paper is enclosed.

It is also possible that Gromyko will touch on bilateral issues, |

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Finally, Gromyko may also have something to say in connection with Khrushchev's plans to visit the U.S. and his hopes for a meeting with you.

Dean Rusk

Enclosures:

1. Talking points on Laos
2. Talking points on Berlin.
3. Talking points on nuclear testing.

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